



PATENT

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Date

June 7, 2004

Ayesha J. Shaikh

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Daniel B. Penney

Attorney Docket No.: 500987.02

Serial No. : 10/643,268

Group Art Unit : 2824

Filed : August 18, 2003

Examiner : Nam T. Nguyen

Confirmation No. : 4652

Date of Notice  
of Allowance : March 16, 2004

Title : PREDECODE COLUMN ARCHITECTURE AND METHOD

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Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS**  
**FOR ALLOWANCE**

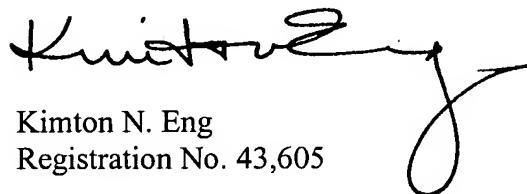
Sir:

In the Examiner's reasons for allowance, he states each independent claim is allowable because the prior art does not teach or suggest a particular element or elements recited in each of the claims. While applicant agrees with the Examiner's indication that the prior art does not teach or disclose the particular elements cited by the Examiner, the undersigned would like to point out that each claim includes a combination of elements and it is the recited

combination, which includes the elements cited by the Examiner, that is not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

While the combinations of elements recited in the allowed claims are allowable, the undersigned would like to point out that some or all of these individual elements may be broadened such that the resulting combination is still patentable. Applicant may elect to pursue such claims, or to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the present invention, through a continuation or reissue application, or through a reexamination proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,  
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



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